

Big Mass Meeting To-Day To Urge Mitchell to Run

Men and Women of All Parties Will Join in the Demand

Mayor Is Expected to Give Final Answer

Fusion Committee Completes Plans for Vigorous Campaign in Boroughs

headquarters yesterday afternoon and addressed 150 members of the Irish Fusion Committee, representing almost as many Irish and Catholic societies. The committee organized by electing Colonel Charles Healy chairman, Harry S. Brennan secretary and General Edward Duffy, formerly chief of the old 68th Regiment, chairman of the executive committee.

On Wednesday afternoon the Mayor will visit Queens to meet the independent committee which has taken charge of his interests in that borough and which will put an organization in every one of its election districts. Eugene V. Daly, of Flushing, who managed the campaign for the Supreme Court of County Judge Burt J. Humphrey, has been selected to head this committee and manage the borough campaign.

Petitions Are All Ready

The petitions for the independent nomination of Mayor Mitchell were completed at Fusion headquarters last night and are ready for immediate filing should the Mayor accept the nomination at to-day's mass meeting. They contain more than the necessary 3,000 names, it was said.

This afternoon the committee on platform of the Fusion Committee met and agreed formally to submit their handwork to the full Fusion Committee. The latter will meet at the Park Avenue Hotel in the evening to pass upon the platform so submitted. Its publication, provided there is no unexpected hitch, will follow within a day or so.

Fusion will speed up its publicity pace by the issuance of an aggressive campaign weekly—"The Fusion Flashlight"—the first number of which will appear to-morrow. It will be eight pages of diversified matter devoted to good reasons why Mitchell should be kept in power. James Montgomery Flagg, W. J. Enright, W. C. Morris, Cranford Young, Reginald Birch, Fontaine Fox, W. K. Starrist, H. T. Webster, J. H. Hill, J. E. Plummer, Walter de Maris, Ralph Barton, Oliver Herford, C. B. Falls and many others of distinction in letters or art will be among the contributors.

Henry A. Wise Wood telegraphed yesterday from Gloucester, Mass., to the Mayor, telling him that it was his duty and that of every decent citizen, regardless of party, to fight for the preservation of his administration from destruction "by the dark forces of disloyalty and sedition which are striving to throw the governmental influence of our city into the scales of war against the United States and its Allies."

Senator Robert L. Owen, chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency of the United States Senate, who had come to the city to attend the dinner for the Japanese mission Saturday evening, before returning to Washington, expressed his deep disappointment that Mayor Mitchell had not received the endorsement at the Republican primaries.

Administration Needed To Stamp Out Sedition, Says Mitchell in Church

Disclaiming all interest in party politics, the Rev. Christian F. Reiser, introduced Mayor Mitchell to the congregation of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church last night as the only man in the city who could save the city from the perilous time of war.

Except for occasional references to the condition of various city departments under Tammany rule, Mr. Mitchell avoided politics, confining his address entirely to the social service rendered the city during the four years of his administration.

"I do not believe the pulpit is the place for politics," said the Mayor, "but this year the interests of our country are foremost, and the city must have an administration strong enough to deal with sedition unafraid wherever it came."

"You sent from this congregation to the service of the army and navy forty-seven men," said Mr. Mitchell. "Every congregation in the city has sent its quota. The men at the camps will tell you how they are doing. It is the duty of everybody in this country to stand by and support them loyally. It is essential that the City of New York finds no time to its service for the government."

Will Seek to Certify Bennett Nomination

Theodore T. Bayler, representing William M. Bennett, Abraham S. Gilbert, representing Mayor Mitchell, and George Nicholson, Assistant Corporation Counsel, representing the Board of Elections, met yesterday afternoon at the City Hall to discuss the nomination of Bennett.

An order to be presented to the justice sitting in Special Part 1 of the Supreme Court in settlement of the primary election.

They will ask that the court order the Board of Elections to certify the figures, as amended by the inspection of ballots, as the correct official count. The order will be presented in the immediate nomination of Bennett.

There was grave doubt in the minds of these three lawyers, however, whether the court would find such an order feasible. It was contended that the election law the Supreme Court could hardly compel the Board of Elections to go behind the returns from the district election boards, and even then, the principles of the law might refuse to stultify themselves by reversing their original counts and thereby force a recount.

Bennett Stays in Race; Defends Americanism

William M. Bennett issued a statement yesterday, branding as foolish any report or statement that he would withdraw from the race for Mayor. The "plain people" had nominated him, he said, and he would carry them to victory on November 6. On the issue of Americanism he had this to say:

"My ancestors on my father's side were Quakers and settled in Pennsylvania over 200 years ago. My original American ancestor on my mother's side landed in Connecticut over 250 years ago, and ancestors of mine have served in the American army during the Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

"That fact, however, makes me no better nor any worse than any other true American citizen, whether he has just been recently naturalized or whether he is the son of a naturalized father, and is no reason why any one should be discriminated against in the present crisis. I approve of the President's course in backing up the honor and rights of the American people and in his stand in using the forces of the army and navy to defend the principles of democracy upon which this country was founded."

Hoover Understood To Be Making Investigation Into Situation

Milk prices go up from 1 1/2 to 2 cents to-day, and yesterday Attorney General Lewis and District Attorney Swann announced that they had the situation under consideration. Mr. Swann was inclined to think that the price fixing by the Dairyman's League constituted a violation of the law. Mr. Lewis intimated that he was powerless to take any effective action until the State Food Commission was appointed and ratified.

The Attorney General said that Federal action was possible, and that he understood that Herbert C. Hoover, Food Administrator, had been making an investigation. So far as state action was concerned, Mr. Lewis pointed out that two courses were possible—an investigation to ascertain whether the Dairyman's League had been violated and procedure under the new food law, which prohibits excessive profits in necessities.

Prosecution under the Denny act, Mr. Lewis said, had proved generally unsuccessful. It was impossible to apply the new law, he said, until the Food Commission was in existence.

"In case the Food Commission shall be promptly organized," he said, "the Attorney General will probably tender to the commission his services for an immediate state-wide public investigation of milk prices. Should there be a prolonged delay in the organization of the commission it will become necessary to adopt other remedies."

Mr. Swann pointed out that the Dairyman's League, said to embrace 90 per cent of the dairymen in the state, had forbidden its members to supply milk to any dealer who refused to sign the new form of contract at a fixed price, which was to be advanced again on November 1.

"Cattle feed has increased greatly in price and the cost of labor and taxes have gone up," said the District Attorney. "The act of the league may be one of industrial preservation. But the combination and agreement to raise prices and the practical blacklisting of those distributors who refused to comply with demands, would constitute a violation of the law against combination in restraint of trade."

News in Brief

Smoke from a three-alarm fire in the Hall Hotel Works, at 130 to 105 Charles Street, drove several hundred residents of three story tenements to the street. The fire caused \$15,000 damage.

A defective switch caused the front trucks of the first car of a Third Avenue "L" train to jump the tracks at 123d Street. Louis Migel, of 416 East Tenth Street, the only passenger in the car, was slightly injured by being thrown from his seat. Fifteen persons in the other cars were unharmed.

Franklin Simon & Co.'s Fifth Avenue store is displaying a flag carrying twenty-seven stars, each denoting an employee of the company who has gone into war service.

Hunting for an escaped prisoner, two Blackwell's Island guards captured three young men and a quantity of narcotics in an abandoned barn at Nassau and Varick avenues, Brooklyn. The keepers did not find their man, whose identity they refused to disclose.

When a Feller Needs a Friend

By BRIGGS



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Mayor Blames Tammany for Park Mistakes

Organization in Campaign of Falsification for Two Years, He Charges

Aided by Swann, Says Statement

Controller Joins in Fusion's Official Reply in Land Dispute

Mayor Mitchell and Controller William A. Prendergast fired another broadside at District Attorney Swann and Tammany Hall in the Seaside Park controversy yesterday in the form of a long signed statement of facts, issued through the publicity bureau of the Fusion Committee. The statement is to stand as Fusion's official answer to all the charges growing out of the park deal.

The Mayor, in going over the history of the acquisition of the land by the city, step by step, lays the blame for any or all mistakes—if any were made—at the doorstep of Tammany Hall. He declares at the time Tammany was in power, when the condemnation proceedings were in progress, "The New York American," now trying to discredit the acquisition of Rockaway Park and Dreamland, was loud in praise of the step.

Statement of Mayor and Controller

The statement says:

"For the last two years Tammany Hall and Tammany's agents have been engaged in a campaign of falsification concerning the purchase of two seaside parks, acquired to provide not only recreation places for the crowded millions of the city's population, but also sites for hospitals and homes for the sick and suffering."

"Since the opening of the current municipal campaign the District Attorney of New York has employed the machinery and influence of his office in this campaign of falsification in the interests of his own candidacy and that of his associates on the Tammany ticket."

The Mayor and the Controller state that they are glad to take full responsibility for the acquisition of the land, although this responsibility was limited to their action as members of committees of the Board of Estimate in recommending the purchase of the parks. They assert that "Tammany has sought to make it appear that these two officers have been responsible in some way for the price paid by the city."

"That this suggestion is false," the statement continues, "is known to Tammany and its agents, and particularly to the District Attorney, who is a lawyer and who knows that we had no more to do with the price than he had."

What the Public Records Show

"In order that the lies uttered may be refuted and the public may know the truth, we have determined to make the following statements of fact, all drawn from the public records, from documents open to public inspection. As a preface to the incontestable record, we will point out briefly certain main facts that Tammany has either carefully distorted or concealed:

"1. Rockaway Park was put on the public map and condemnation proceedings initiated by a Tammany Board of Estimate three years before we were elected to the board."

"2. Condemnation proceedings, again initiated in 1914, were first ordered by the Corporation Counsel appointed by Mayor William J. Gaynor, who was elected on the Tammany ticket."

"3. The Corporation Counsel made no appeal from the award of \$1,250,000, as confirmed by the Supreme Court, and the award was paid."

"4. 'The New York American,' now trying to discredit the park acquisition, was at that time a Tammany organ, and fought then for an appropriation of \$250,000 larger than the final award."

"5. Mayor Mitchell's Corporation Counsel vigorously opposed an award of \$1,014,000 for the Dreamland property, and succeeded in having the corporation of the award reversed by a higher court."

"6. Not one cent has ever been paid to Seaside Park and Dreamland for the same. The Dreamland Park property, and Mayor Mitchell's Corporation Counsel is still fighting before a new commission in condemnation to procure the lowest possible award."

"Despite all these facts of record, Tammany has attempted to make it appear that both parks were purchased as the result of close affiliation between members of the Fusion board and a 'real estate gang.'"

Park Movement Reviewed

The Mayor goes back to the time when the movement for the acquisition of Rockaway Park first started in 1904, when George B. McClellan was Mayor. He traces it through the various committees until the time that Mayor McClellan recommended speedy action before the Board of Aldermen in 1906.

"At this hearing on June 1, 1906, appeared Frank L. Downing, now candidate for President of the Borough of Manhattan, then an alderman of the City of New York, in support of the acquisition of Rockaway Park."

It is also pointed out that the project had the support of Jacob A. Riis, Cardinal Patrick, Bishop Greer and the Rev. Dr. W. T. Manning and of the leading humanitarian organizations.

Mayor Mitchell refers to the fact that Herman A. Metz, then Controller, was the leading champion of Rockaway Park, and that it was a Tammany board that, in March, 1907, unanimously voted to buy the land.

"On September 27, 1907, the resolution for the acquisition for the park land," the statement continues, "was referred to the Controller, the chief engineer and the Corporation Counsel as a special committee to see if the property could be purchased and at what price, thereby indicating that the Tammany Board of Estimate contemplated acquiring this property at private sale, and not through the regular course of condemnation."

The acquisition of the land at that time, it is shown, was halted by the panic of the fall of 1907. The matter

Leaders to Fight Amendments to War Tax Bill

House Will Get Conference Report on \$2,700,000,000 Measure To-day

Expect Prompt Action

Senate May Approve It To-morrow and President Sign It Thursday

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Enactment into law this week of the great war tax bill, upon which conferees agreed last night, was regarded as certain to-day by leaders of both houses. The report will be presented to the House to-morrow and to the Senate probably on Tuesday, and by Thursday, at the latest, the bill should be ready for the President's signature.

Opposition to certain sections of the bill is expected, but the leaders are determined not to permit any amendments. To open the door, they say, would draw a flood of new amendments and indefinite delay.

Official estimates of the total amount to be raised by the bill still are lacking. Experts worked throughout the day in an attempt to have them ready for the House conferees when they present their report to-morrow. New unofficial figures make it appear, however, that the total will be somewhat less than \$2,700,000,000, as first estimated.

Difficult for Experts

Estimating the income and excess profits taxes has proved difficult for the experts. The latest unofficial estimate, prepared to-night, shows a total of approximately \$2,610,000,000, with indications that the final figures probably will be \$15,000,000 higher. The estimated sums the bill will raise follow:

Income tax, \$600,000,000; excess profits, \$1,100,000,000; distilled spirits, \$135,000,000; coffee and sugar, \$15,000,000; fermented liquors, \$45,000,000; wines, \$6,000,000; soft drinks and syrups, \$13,000,000; cigars, \$10,000,000; cigarettes, \$21,500,000; tobacco, \$25,000,000; snuff, \$2,000,000; lottery, \$10,000,000; freight transportation, \$56,000,000; pipe lines, \$4,000,000; seats and births, \$4,000,000; telephone and telephone messages, \$7,000,000; insurance policies, \$5,000,000; automobiles, \$40,000,000; musical instruments, \$5,000,000; motion picture films, \$3,000,000; jewelry, \$4,500,000; sporting goods, \$1,300,000; pleasure boats, \$500,000; medical supplies, \$3,000,000; cameras, \$750,000; admissions, \$50,000,000; club dues, \$1,200,000; stamp taxes, \$300,000,000; inheritance, \$200,000,000; Virginia Island products, \$20,000,000; first class mail matter, \$60,000,000; and second class mail matter, \$1,400,000.

Call Bill a Good One

The conferees declare the bill is one of the best ever prepared. Senators Simmons and Representative Kitchin, who headed the conference, being particularly enthusiastic. A detailed explanation of the war profits tax section of the measure, from which source it is proposed to raise about one-half of the total amount of the bill, will be made by Mr. Kitchin. Few sources of revenue have been overlooked.

The second class mail matter increases are tremendous. They are based on a reading and advertising matter carried by publications.

Auto Kills Youth On Wedding Day

Two soldiers sprang from an automobile in front of St. Mary's Hospital, Jamaica, early yesterday, ran inside, crying that one man had been killed and others hurt in an automobile accident and dashed out again. They have not been seen since.

In the automobile in which they came was found Sergeant Raymond W. Gove, of the Quartermaster's Corps, General's Island. His right hand was severely cut. The driver of the car, who knew only that the soldiers had been murdered, it at least, he believed, was admitted to the hospital and an ambulance sent to the spot named.

The body of George D. McDonald, of 764 Columbus Avenue, lay beside the road. He had been killed when a government car driven by Gove, who was a car driven by Daniel Burkholder, of Hempstead, Long Island, snapped a telegraph pole in two and struck him. Mr. Burkholder, who was driving, was arrested. He said that he had permission to use the car, and had invited the other two soldiers and McDonald, a friend of theirs, for a ride. He is charged with homicide.

Frank Mahoney, an Adams Express Company helper, who was doing some extra work yesterday morning because he was to be married in the afternoon and wanted a few days' leave, was thrown from a motor truck on West Twenty-sixth Street when it collided with another vehicle. He died an hour later in Bellevue Hospital.

News of his death reached his fiancée, Miss Mary Krause, of 704 First Avenue, while she was preparing for the wedding. She is eighteen years old. Mahoney's home was in the same house.

A touring car which sped away after the accident killed Mrs. Josephine Corbett, of 227 West Street, at the Bowery and Prince Street.

Sweden Bars High Shoes

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 30.—The government has issued a decree, effective October 4, for the expropriation of all animal fats except butter and all so-called technical fats and oils. The last few weeks have been marked by a great shortage of fats. Lard has almost disappeared from the market, and when obtainable at all is very expensive. Butter is scarce at very high prices.

A decree effective October 8 limits the height of shoes to 18 centimeters (a little over 7 inches), thus stopping the manufacture of fashionable high boots for women. The order also provides that all shoes weighing more than 15 kilograms (two and one-half pounds) may be used only for the manufacture of sole leathers.

\$3,000 Raised for Christmas Gifts for Pershing's Men

Five thousand persons attended an open air theatrical performance and concert at Port Totten yesterday for the benefit of a fund to purchase Christmas presents for 600 soldiers who left the front with the Pershing expedition in France.

The performance, which was held on the beach at Port Totten, was a success. The proceeds of the evening were \$3,000, which was realized. De Wolf Hopper sold a copy of a paper, "Le Petit," printed in the trenches. John L. Golden purchased it for \$250.

Among the theatrical services were Raymond Barker, Leon Errol, Douglas Fairbanks, Barney Bernard, Frank Craven, Frank Tinney, Irene Bordoni, Belle Baker, Grace La Rue, the Dolly sisters and Irene Franklin.